

**In the Specification:**

Page 1, first paragraph, lines 3-4, replace with a new paragraph as follows:

-- The invention relates to a device ~~of the type [[,] defined in the introductory portion of claim 1 for automatically compensating an imbalance of a rotor of a centrifuge.~~ -- .

Page 2, third full paragraph, line 4, delete in its entirety.

Page 3, first and second full paragraphs, lines 11-20, replace with new paragraphs as follows:

-- The device can be mounted at different concentric surfaces of the rotor, for example, at the rotor container provided for accommodating the material to be centrifuged. Advantageously, however, ~~in accordance with claim 2[,,]~~ it is intended to be mounted at the drive shaft, for example, in the vicinity of the rotor container. By these means, the mounting is simplified.

The device may be provided at a concentric outer surface of the rotor, for example, at the periphery of the rotor container or particularly advantageously by mounting it on the outside of the shaft. Advantageously, however, ~~in~~

~~in accordance with claim 3[[],]~~ it is disposed at a concentric inner surface, particularly at an inner surface of the rotor container. This leads to a particularly space-saving construction. -- .

Page 4, paragraphs one through four, replace with four new paragraphs as follows:

-- Advantageously, the elastic ring ~~of claim 4~~ is construed as an elastomeric ring. Suitable elastomers, such as natural rubber or a synthetic elastomer can be used. Especially the spring action, which is uniform in all directions, and the good inherent damping of the material are of advantage here.

The elastomeric ring can be construed in one piece. Advantageously, however, ~~in accordance with claim 5[[],]~~ it is constructed in several layers. These layers can be separated by planes disposed perpendicularly to the axis or especially also as concentric layers disposed in the radial direction above one another. The rebounding and damping properties of the elastomeric ring can be optimized by the multilayer construction with layers having different elastomeric parameters.

Advantageously, ~~in accordance with claim 6[,,]~~ a seating ring is provided on the side of the elastomeric ring, intended to be fastened to the rotor. This seating ring consists, for example, of metal and makes possible a regular metal-to-metal fastening of the device.

The compensating ring, which preferable consists of metal, the elastic ring and an optionally provided seating ring can be inserted loosely one inside the other and held together by additional devices. Advantageously, however, ~~in accordance with claim 7[,,]~~ they are permanently connected with one another into a structural unit, thus improving the installability and the functional reliability. -- .

Page 5, first and second paragraphs, replace with two new paragraphs as follows:

-- Preferably, the elastomeric ring ~~of claim 8~~ consists wholly or partially, for example in one or several layers, of an elastomeric foam which, because of its special elasticity property, enables the rebound and damping properties of the elastomeric ring to be optimized further.

Advantageously, according to claim 9[[],] the elastic ring is constructed as an obliquely wound helical spring. With this construction, radial elastic properties can be achieved, which are similar to those of an elastomeric ring, however, with the advantages, for example, of a better heat stability and chemical resistance. Good inherent damping can also be attained hereunder to frictional damping resulting from the multiple contacts of the threads of the screw. --